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Subject: Patrick Bayou - Conference Call Notes - Acute/Chronic Ratios
Date: 04/14/2009 02:22 PM

ALL:

On April 8, 2009 a conference call was held with representatives from the Patrick Bayou JDG, EPA, TCEA and the NR Trustees to discuss methodologies for acute/chronic ratios for sediment toxicity tests at the Patrick Bayou Superfund Site. The call was brief and the major points are summarized below.

- Bob Piniewski/PNL opened with the objective of the meeting; to obtain regulatory team input on how to use existing data and develop an approach to dealing with acute/chronic ratios for sediment toxicity tests
- Phil Turner/EPA had distributed three technical papers, but felt that most existing information dealt with water quality, not sediments. Phil also said ACRs can only be used to make comparisons between same-chemical (or chemicals with a similar mode of action) and same-critter toxicity tests. They would not be very predictive with complex mixtures unless you can discern effects of each contaminant.
- Joe Bell/TCEQ asked what was done at the Calcasieu. David Keith (AnchorQEA) responded that both chronic and acute predictive models were evaluated in the Calcasieu Estuary BERA but does not recall if direct comparison between sensitivity of the different test endpoints was performed
- Jessica White/NOAA expressed concern about the lack of sub-lethal data at Patrick Bayou
- David Keith/AnchorQEA indicated that the JDG would consider the Calcasieu bioassay data set as well as other literature sources to assess the relationship between bioassay endpoints and that we would also consider those relationships relative to the different chemical groups (e.g. metals, PAHs, etc.) that may influence such relationships
- Phil Turner/EPA indicated that The Calcasieu efforts included numerous chronic sediment toxicity tests (not just predictive models), therefore there wasn't a need to model/predict chronic toxicity from acute data. AnchorQEA will investigate the actual use of the chronic tests in the Calcasieu BERA.
- Linda Broach/TCEQ suggested we see how that works, and that the TMDL data is good information, but may not demonstrate all the risks
- Bob Piniewski/PNL stated that moving forward, the JDG and its representatives will consider the input from the meeting, investigate sediment related methods for analyzing the existing data, and propose an approach to the regulatory team.

Should you have any questions please contact me.

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